

**March 7, 2003**

**TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO THE RULE TO REDUCE TOXIC AIR EMISSIONS  
FROM METAL COIL SURFACE COATING FACILITIES**

**FACT SHEET**

**TODAY'S ACTION**

- ! The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing a technical correction to its final rule to reduce toxic air emissions from metal coil surface coating facilities. Toxic air pollutants, also known as air toxics, are those pollutants known or suspected to cause cancer or other serious health and environmental problems.
- ! This action will correct the timeline for beginning the first semiannual reporting period and submitting the first semiannual report.
- ! This correction is necessary because EPA changed the compliance period from monthly in the proposed rule (65 FR 44616, July 18, 2000) to annually in the final rule (67 FR 39794, June 10, 2002). Inadvertently, the timeline for submitting semiannual reports was not corrected in the final rule to reflect that change.
- ! Metal coil coating is the process of applying a coating (usually protective or decorative) to one or both sides of a continuous strip of sheet metal. Industries using coated metal include: transportation, building products, appliances, can manufacturing, and packaging. Other products using coated metal coil include measuring tapes, ventilation systems for walls and roofs, lighting fixtures, office filing cabinets, cookware, and sign stock material.
- ! Today's action will not change the level of health protection of the metal coil standards or the basic control requirements.
- ! Today's action is expected to affect approximately 90 metal coil coating facilities. No additional costs to the industry will result from this action.

**BACKGROUND**

- ! Under the Clean Air Act, EPA is required to regulate emissions of 188 listed toxic air pollutants. The Clean Air Act also requires EPA to identify industrial or "source" categories that emit one or more of these toxic air pollutants. For categories of "major" sources (those that emit 10 tons per year or more of a listed pollutant or 25 tons per year or more of a combination of pollutants), the Clean Air Act requires EPA to develop standards that require the application of stringent air pollution reduction measures known as maximum achievable control technology.

- ! EPA's published list of source categories includes metal coil surface coating.
- ! Metal coil coating has been identified as a major source of air toxic emissions, including methyl ethyl ketone, glycol ethers, xylenes (isomers and mixtures), toluene, and isophorone. These air toxics are emitted mostly during the coating application and curing operations. Health problems caused by breathing these air toxics include eye, nose, throat, and skin irritation, and blood cell, heart, liver, and kidney damage.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- ! To download the technical correction document from EPA's website on the Internet, go to Recent Actions at the following address: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/ramain.html>.
- ! The technical correction document is also available through EPA's Docket Center (Docket Number A-97-47) by calling (202) 566-1742 or fax (202) 566-1741 (a reasonable fee may be charged for copying).
- ! For general information about this correction, contact Rhea Jones of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Emission Standards Division, Coatings and Consumer Products Group at (919) 541-2940, or by electronic mail at: [jones.rhea@epa.gov](mailto:jones.rhea@epa.gov). Or visit the metal coil surface coating website at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/mcoil/mcoilpg.html>.
- ! The EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's (OAR) homepage on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the air toxics program and many other air pollution programs and issues. The OAR home page address is <http://www.epa.gov/oar/>.